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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ABBREVIATED ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for 1942.

R.T.E. NAISMITH, M.B., B.S.

COLNE VALLEY

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Health Department,
Town Hall,
LINTHWAITE.

Gentlemen,

As the war goes on, stricter economies must be made and so this report is again very terse, only the barest details being incorporated but once again I assure you that all statistics relevant to the work of this department are recorded and filed for any emergency.

This year has seen a return to their homes of many of the evacuees but all provisions have to be made and everything kept in readiness in case of a sudden demand for further calls.

The staff have still many and various duties, some of which are not in the true sense of the word public health work, but at all times they have willingly carried them out to the best of their ability and to them I again offer my thanks.

To the members of the health committee I also tender my appreciation for their unfailing support.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R.T.E. Naismith.

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GENERAL PROVISION FOR HEALTH SERVICES.

As in previous years.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (in acres)	16,052
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid 1942	21,170
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1942) according to the Rate Books	7,601
Rateable value and the sum represented by a penny rate	£117,536 - £446.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	258	139	119
Illegitimate	13	7	6

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 12.80

STILL BIRTHS.

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	14	5	9
Illegitimate	1	1	-

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 52.44

DEATHS.

	Total	M.	F.
	275	150	125

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 12.9

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

(Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List)

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No.29 Puerperal sepsis	-	-
No.30 Other puerperal causes	-	-
Total	-	-

DEATH RATE IN INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 live births	62.73
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	58.14
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	153.54

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	32
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

GENERAL PROVISION FOR HEALTH SERVICES.

As in previous years.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (in acres)	16,082
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid 1962	21,170
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1962) according to the Rate Books	7,664
Rateable value and the sum represented by a penny rate	£117,356 - 1966.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	[illegible]	159	149
Illegitimate	15	7	8
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			15.00

STILL BIRTHS.

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	14	9	5
Illegitimate	1	1	-
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			32.44

DEATHS.

	Total	M.	F.
	175	105	158
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			12.0

DEATHS FROM PULMONARY CAUSES.

(Including 20 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List)

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No.19 Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-
No.30 Other pulmonary diseases	-	-
Total	-	-

DEATH RATE IN INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 live births	63.75
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	59.14
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	125.00

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	39
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

MAIN GROUPS OF DEATHS.

Cause.	Males	Females	Total	Last year.
Diabetes	-	2	2	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage	12	20	32	44
Heart Diseases	43	28	71	96
Other circulatory diseases	5	-	5	9
Bronchitis	5	4	9	27
Pneumonia	5	3	8	7
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	1
Influenza	-	-	-	2
Cancer	18	14	32	45
Pulmonary tuberculosis	8	3	11	13
Non-pulmonary tuberculosis	-	2	2	3

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Disease.	Males	Females	Total	Under School	School Age	Over School
Scarlet Fever	35	39	74	15	55	4
Diphtheria	-	2	2	1	-	1
Measles	162	171	333	159	169	5
Whooping Cough	12	17	29	21	8	-
Erysipelas	3	4	7			
Pneumonia	10	8	18			
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	2			
Typhoid	1	-	1			
Poliomyelitis	1	-	1			
Tuberculosis:						
Pulmonary	8	4	12			
Non-pulmonary	8	9	17			

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Regarding the case of Typhoid, no definite source of infection could be traced. Of the two cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever one death resulted. Scarlet Fever with 74 cases showed a considerable increase over the last few years, and 62 of the cases occurred in the last six months of the year. It never assumed the character of an epidemic. Measles with 333 cases was spread over 3 wards and occurred in the last six months of the year. Other diseases call for no particular mention and the age groups of incidence are set out above.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Rock and Highhouse supplies again gave trouble owing to corrosion and silting of the mains. This was remedied. Complaints regarding the Hey Knowle supply were received and 6 fortnightly bacteriological tests were made. The results of these were 4 unsatisfactory and 2 border line. In consequence the Council decided to condemn the supply and 35 statutory notices were issued requiring the provision of a wholesome and sufficient service. Three of the houses were closed and 20 others had completed the laying on of Huddersfield Corporation's supply by the end of the year, the remaining 12 awaiting plumbers arrangements for lead piping. Houses on the Upper Clough supply were affected by a drop in pressure and investigations of the cause were in progress at the end of the year. The percentages of supply are as follows:- Huddersfield Corporation 56.97, Earl Dartmouth 11.85, Private supplies 15.31, giving a total of 84.13 of houses with a laid on supply. The balance representing 15.87 of the houses have to carry in water from nearby wells and springs.

MAIN CAUSES OF DEATHS.

Cause.	Males	Females	Total	Last year.
Diabetes	-	2	2	8
Cerebral Haemorrhage	12	20	32	44
Heart Disease	42	29	71	96
Other circulatory diseases	2	-	2	9
Bronchitis	2	4	6	27
Pneumonia	2	5	8	7
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	1
Influenza	-	-	-	2
Cancer	18	14	32	42
Pulmonary tuberculosis	2	2	11	12
Non-pulmonary tuberculosis	-	2	2	2

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diseases.	Males	Females	Total	Under School Age	School Age	Over School
Scarlet Fever	34	30	64	15	38	4
Diphtheria	-	2	2	1	-	1
Measles	168	197	365	145	169	3
Whooping Cough	12	17	29	21	8	-
Erysipelas	2	4	6			
Pneumonia	10	8	18			
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	2			
Typhoid	1	-	1			
Poliomyelitis	1	-	1			
Tuberculosis:						
Pulmonary	8	4	12			
Non-pulmonary	8	9	17			

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Regarding the cases of Typhoid, no definite source of infection could be traced. Of the two cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever one death resulted. Scarlet Fever with 64 cases showed a considerable increase over the last few years, and 42 of the cases occurred in the last six months of the year. It never assumed the character of an epidemic. Measles with 365 cases was spread over 3 years and occurred in the last six months of the year. Other diseases call for no particular mention and the usual groups of incidence are not out of the ordinary.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Moor and Mightcote districts again give trouble owing to corrosion and silting of the mains. This was remedied. Complaints regarding the May Hill supply were received and a reservoir by Mathematical Tools was made. The results of tests were 4 unsatisfactory and 2 better than. In consequence the Council decided to abandon the supply and 30 statutory notices were issued requiring the provision of a wholesome and sufficient service. Three of the houses were closed and 30 others had connected the Leytonstone Corporation's supply by the end of the year. The remaining 12 resulting plumbers arrangements for lead piping. Houses on the Upper Clough supply were affected by a drop in pressure and investigations of the causes were in progress at the end of the year. The percentages of supply are as follows: Leytonstone Corporation 88.9%, Tarn Dartmouth 11.0%, Private supplies 15.2%, giving a total of 26.15 of houses with a laid on supply. The balance representing 13.8% of the houses have to carry in water from nearby wells and springs.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No extension was carried out during the year.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Nothing to report.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Tables showing the Ward position are again omitted, but as previously, have been prepared and filed. Seven privies and eight tubclosets have been replaced by waterclosets, and 11 additional waterclosets have been provided for existing properties. No new houses were built, thus the total increase in waterclosets was 26 for the year. The position regarding materials and labour continues to restrict conversions. Twentytwo subsidies of £3 each were paid. The numbers of the various types of conveniences serving the district at the end of the year were as follows:- Privies 1060, Tub closets 489, Waterclosets 4804 and Waste Waterclosets 71.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The position is very similar to last year when the difficulties of carrying out the work of public cleansing increased owing to the calling up of certain staff for war service. Reorganisation has enabled the work to be carried out with very few complaints.

SALVAGE.

A separate staff is employed for this work and during the year the increased requirements of the Ministry of Supply have called for great effort in this department. As the reclamation of every kind of waste material is urged, the Council have purchased a bottle washing machine to enable the majority of salvaged bottles and jars to be put back into circulation.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

NUISANCES.

The number of nuisances in hand at the end of 1941 was 26, and these with 113 new nuisances reported gave a total of 139 for abatement. Of this number 105 were abated leaving 34 to carry forward unabated. The majority of these will have to remain for abatement until after the war on account of the situation in regard to materials and labour. They will remain on record until such time for re-reporting to the Council. Of the nuisances dealt with, 38 arose from defective drainage, 1 defective sewer, 9 from defective sanitary conveniences, 2 offensive accumulations, 15 insanitary privies, 41 insufficient water supply, 6 premises in such a state as to be a nuisance, and 2 animals kept as to be a nuisance.

Thirtyseven statutory notices were issued and 25 complied with, 12 remaining in hand at the end of the year. Fortyfive informal notices were served and 40 complied with.

FACTORIES.

The number of factories on the register is the same as at the close of last year, namely 155 "Power factories" and 38 "Non Power Factories". Owing to the war requirement for the amalgamation of certain businesses several factories are not at present being operated, but it has not been considered desirable to amend the register. The general conditions prevailing are very satisfactory.

PLANTING AND REPLANTING.

No extension was carried out during the year.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Nothing to report.

URGENT ACCOMMODATION.

Tables showing the Ward position are again omitted, but as previously, have been prepared and filed. Seven private and eight tubclosets have been replaced by waterclosets, and 11 additional waterclosets have been provided for existing properties. No new houses were built, thus the total increase in waterclosets was 26 for the year. The position regarding material and labour continues to restrict conversions. Twenty-two subsidies of £5 each were paid. The number of the various types of conveniences serving the district at the end of the year were as follows:- Tubclosets 1060, Sub closets 688, Waterclosets 4804 and Waste Waterclosets 71.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The position is very similar to last year when the difficulties of carrying out the work of public cleansing increased owing to the calling up of certain staff for war service. Incineration has enabled the work to be carried out with very few complaints.

SEWERAGE.

A separate staff is employed for this work and during the year the increased requirements of the Ministry of Supply have called for great efforts in this department. As the reclamation of every kind of waste material is urged, the Council have purchased a bottle washing machine to enable the majority of salvaged bottles and jars to be put back into circulation.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

INSPECTIONS.

The number of inspections in hand at the end of last year, 28, are taken with the new inspections reported, were a total of 1259 for abatement. Of this number 105 were carried forward to carry forward numbers. The majority of these will have to remain for abatement until after the war on account of the difficulties in regard to materials and labour. They will remain on record until such time for re-reporting to the Council. Of the nuisances dealt with, 20 arose from defective drainage, 1 defective sewer, 9 from defective sanitary conveniences, 2 offensive accumulations, 18 insufficient pavings, 41 insufficient water supply, 8 premises in such a state as to be a nuisance, and 2 animals kept as to be a nuisance.

Thirty-seven statutory notices were issued and 32 complied with, 12 remaining in hand at the end of the year. Twenty-five informal notices were served and 40 complied with.

PADDINGS.

The number of factories on the registers in the area is as the place of last year, namely 1368 "Power Factories" and 32 "Power Laundries". Owing to the war requirements for the manufacture of essential industries powered factories are not as numerous being operated, but it has not been considered desirable to cease the inspections. The general conditions remaining are very satisfactory.

BAKEHOUSES.

The number on the register remains the same as last year, being classed under the Factories Act as 14 "Power Factories" and 7 "Non Power Factories". Inspection has shown them to be well and cleanly kept. There are no underground bakehouses in the district.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Ministry of Home Security requirements govern this question and no action towards the attainment of this objective can be taken. The Council are members of the West Riding Regional Smoke Abatement Committee.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Two businesses are registered under this heading and they have been conducted in a satisfactory manner during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

There are 88 registered cowkeepers, and 128 cowsheds in the district. The average number of cows kept is 850. One new licence has been granted for the production of Accredited Milk bringing the total to 11. During the war it is only possible to carry out minor alterations to cowsheds etc., but the general structural conditions are good.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE AND MEAT SUPPLY.

No alteration since last year.

HOUSING.

During the year 80 inspections were made under the Housing Act 1936. Of this number repairs were carried out with respect to 45 houses, the remaining houses are under notice to repair. 18 houses left over from 1941 have now been repaired.

One case of overcrowding was abated by the provision of a Council house.

During the year representation was made under Section 9, Housing Act 1936, with respect to one house. Later the owner agreed to close the house, the tenant being provided with alternative accommodation.

MACHINERY.

The number on the register remains the same as last year, being classed under the Factories Act as 14 "Power Factories" and 7 "Non Power Factories". Inspection has shown them to be well and cleanly kept. There are no underground bakehouses in the district.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Ministry of Home Security requirements govern this question and no action towards the attainment of this objective can be taken. The Council are members of the West Riding Regional Smoke Abatement Committee.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Two businesses are registered under this heading and they have been conducted in a satisfactory manner during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

There are 23 registered cowkeepers, and 120 cowsheds in the district. The average number of cows kept is 350. One new licence has been granted for the pre-heating of Accredited Milk bringing the total to 11. During the war it is only possible to carry out minor alterations to cowsheds etc., but the general structural conditions are good.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

No alteration since last year.

HOUSING.

During the year 60 inspections were made under the Housing Act 1936. Of this number Details were carried out with respect to 40 houses. The remaining houses are under notice to repair. 18 houses left over from last year now been repaired.

One case of overcrowding was abated by the provision of a Council house.

During the year requisitioning was made under Section 9, Housing Act 1936, with respect to one house. Later the owner agreed to allow the house, the tenants being provided with alternative accommodation.